

December

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Magic Lantern Society **NEWS** 2012



Issue is known to be haunted, CHECK IT



A VICTORIAN MAGIC CHRISTMAS



<http://www.hillmanweb.com/xmas/magic.html>

From the President

Dear Friends:

Now that we are in the midst of the Holiday Season, let us remember each other in our thoughts. And hope that our leaders in Washington can come to some agreement and move on to the business of our country.

As a Society we have been getting a few new members each month. I hope you are all working on encouraging those of your friends or acquaintances who are interested in the magic lantern or early cinema join. I also hope that you are looking into the local historical societies, etc as to whether they have any slides in their collections. If you do, I would love to hear about it.

An exciting request for a publishing proposal from an English publishing house to the Society was received about publishing books the magic lantern. They are frequent publishers for member of Domator, an early early cinema academic society. The Research Committee is looking into that possibility. We will keep you posted.

There seem to be a fair number of lanterns and slides that people are finding in estates or family attics and want information. I try to answer their questions except as to the value, especially since I do not usually get sent any pictures. If they are going to sell, you will probably see them on Ebay. There are also lots of travel slides which people don't know what they are. Some of these might be very interesting to study. Know of anyone interested?

I wish each and everyone of you a happy and healthy Holiday Season, and the very best wishes for the new year.

Deborah Borton



The Seattle Star., December 15, 1903

Spokane Press., December 18, 1903

MANY CHRISTMAS PACKAGES BEING SENT THIS YEAR

Business Is Unusually Heavy—Careless
ness in Addressing Causes Much An-
noyance—Letters to Santa Claus.

"You would be surprised at the num-
ber of packages that are left at the
post-office for forwarding that have no
address, an address that no one could
 decipher or insufficient postage." said
Postmaster Lemmon yesterday. "The
Postmaster Lemmon comes up year after year in
same thing comes up year after year in
every post-office in the United States.
and the postal employees get blamed
for a great deal that is not their fault.
I can assure you. And yet, in view of
the very great number of packages sent
between the 15th of December and the
1st of January, the number that fail
entirely to reach their destination is
very small. No package is sent to the
dead letter office until every possible
means of finding where it should go and
forwarding it have been employed.

"We nearly always get letters address-
ed to Santa Claus; so far this year only
one of these has been mailed here; this
is it," and Mr. Lemmon produced a dirty,
much handled little envelope sealed with
white thread across the end, and ad-
dressed:

"To Santa Claus
To the North Pole."

The enclosure was written on a piece
of yellow manilla paper and worded as
follows:

"North Yakima Washington December
16 1904. Dear Santa Claus will you
please bring me twelve Magic Lanterns
please yours good by."

The good old fellow will be as much
puzzled as the postal clerks often are.
however, for the young applicant for
favor was one of those who fail to sign
their name or give their address. And
yet, who knows but Santa Claus is wiser
than human beings? He may have
heard the petition and be even now on
his way to the writer's home with a dor-
en of his finest "pictures" in his sack
for him. It is to be hoped that such is
the case.



THE BUSY ST TOY SH

Wonderful things are here—things to make the
grown-ups stare at the advance of Toy-making since
the happy of all the year. And the Dolls! There's
that talk. Dolls that walk. Dolls that wake or sleep
up toyland. But Christmas wonders are not confined
there is glowing with holiday warmth, in brighter vi-
sion your fancy has taken, quick, complete, in

Foot Balls	
Rugby Football	95c
Globe	\$1.50, \$2.50
Woolen Soccer	50c
Football	75c
Boxing	\$1.00, \$1.50
Tool Boxes	
We make our own Tool Boxes and only get such tools in them as you may want. They are by far the best value in Seattle.	
Tool Box	\$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00
Tool Box	\$2.00, \$4.00 and \$5.00.
Magic Lanterns	
We have an unusually good strong line of the very best Magic Lanterns made. They are mounted, work perfectly, strong and the very best lenses.	
1st Magic Lantern, with 10 slides	\$1.50
2nd Magic Lantern, with 10 slides	\$2.00
3rd Magic Lantern, with 10 slides	\$2.50
4th Magic Lantern, with 10 slides	\$3.00



'Tis the
Season to
want those
lanterns and
slides!

Yakima Herald,
Dec 21, 1904

SANTA

Boys and Girls
Write Letters
to Santa Claus
In the Press



Letters to Santa Claus

HAROLD BUCKLEY.

Dear Old Santa Claus: I will now
try and let you know that there are
just four of us boys and I know it
will be hard for you to think what
what we want, so I will tell you
so we have made it up that I must
write for us all. Santa, Paul wants
a rocking horse; Vernon, a drum and
horns; Emmett wants a new suit of
clothes, a drum and a horn; and I
would like a magic lantern or a train
or car that will run on a track. We
all want candy and nuts and fruit.
I am 9 years old and Emmett 7. Ver-
non 5, Paul 2. Goodbye, old Santa
Claus. Remember us to Mrs. Claus and all
the children. Yours,
HAROLD BUCKLEY.
1114 Sprague avenue.

HERE'S A CHANCE FOR SANTA CLAUS.

Dear Santa Claus: I thought I would
write you and let you know what
we want most. I have two sisters and
one brother. I am 12 years old and
my name is Effie. and I would like a
set of dishes with the cups 1 1/2 inch
high if you please. Hazel is 11 years
old. She wants a doll trunk 1 1/2 inch
long. Baby Hattie is 2 years and 3
months old. She wants a set of
dishes. Now for the boy, his name is
Fred. He is 10 years old. He wants
an express wagon. That is all, and I
guess it is enough.
EFFIE, HAZEL, FRED and
HATTIE MCGENNES.
409 Colfax street.
P. S.—This is from some little friends
of ours, so we will put it in the same

For Sale 1933 Century of Progress



A collection of lantern slides I am selling this week.

There are about 160 from the 1933 Century of Progress all color with many amazing scenes. They are roughly 75% with a "hand typed" Keystone matt inside but

all still in original colored Keystone edge tape in really nice condition. This is a series that is extremely uncommon & possibly made special for someone back then by Keystone. I have had private lantern slides of this event but never seen anything like this before and have seen over 200,000 slides by now at least. If someone were doing exhibitions, shows or even loaning to exhibits, writing a book this could be of historical importance for sure. I've contacted a few world's fair dealers and they even said that they have never seen anything like this at all and thought they were cool.

The price for this collection is \$2500 and I can still be contacted at pkstore2@stereoview.net

Thanks

Pat



An Magic Lanternist CDV

From Tom Rall

This is a follow up from the Dag Soc trade show last week in Baltimore where my friend Jeff Kraus was showing, among other great images, a cdv of a lanternist. Neither Jeff nor I had seen one previously and think it may be quite rare. Why would this be? Did the photographic format (1860-early 1870s was the heyday) pretty much predate the introduction of the itinerant lanternist in the U.S.?

Here is a link to Jeff's online listing:
<http://antiquephotographics.com/cdvs/photographica-cdvs/> The lanternist is the fourth image on the page. Note the photographer's back mark is a "Portsmouth" address. Jeff thinks England; I suspect U.S. Have other members seen antique cdvs or later, larger cabinet cards of magic lanternists?

Also note that Jeff's listings two below the lanternist include a group of McAllister family images, though not including our prolific T.H. McAllister, and a link to a family history, which shows T.H. departing Philadelphia for New York in 1865 and establishing at the familiar 49 Nassau St. address, from which perhaps millions of lantern slides emanated, in 1866.

Tom



From Terry Borton



Ken Jacobs & Aki Onda: Nervous Magic Lantern (US Premiere)

**Wed, December 12, 2012
8:00pm**

**Abrons Art Center, 466
Grand Street, NYC**

Nervous Magic Lantern

<http://issueprojectroom.org/drupal/event/ken-jacobs-aki-onda>

Film Projection Project

From Marina Uzunova

Dear friends at the Magic Lantern Society,

I'm writing to inform you of a collaborative on-line oral history project we hope you will find interesting and assist us in.

Planetary Projection will document, where possible in their own words, the work and experiences of the world's film projectionists, today an endangered species. Accompanied by photographs of projectionists at work, brief vignettes will present some of their views on cinema and their trade, its past, present and future.

We're looking for projectionists to contribute to the project. We'd be very grateful for your help if you could put us in touch with the projectionists you work with or you know.

With time, we hope to publish a selection of the on-line vignettes in book form. Please visit our website at www.caboosebooks.net, where you will find a one-page PDF description of the project you can circulate or



The Netherlands and South Africa.
<http://www.caboosebooks.net/planetary-projection> More to come soon!

Planetary Projection is a project of caboose, an independent scholarly film book publisher based in Montreal. In 2009 we published an acclaimed new English translation of selections from André Bazin's *What is Cinema?*, and in 2012 will be publishing the first-ever English translation of Jean-Luc Godard's *Introduction to a True History of Cinema and Television*, with countless additions and corrections to the French edition.

Thank you for your interest and assistance, and we look forward to hearing from you or the projectionists you know and work with soon.

Yours sincerely,

Marina Uzunova

post. You will also find there a scholarly article on the film projectionist in early cinema by Timothy Barnard, in its published English, French and Spanish versions.

Already there are twenty lovely submissions by projectionists from the US, UK, Denmark, Brazil, Ireland, Macedonia, Argentina, Austria, Scotland,

<http://www.caboosebooks.net/planetary-projection>

The Hollywood Heritage Museum in the Lasky-DeMille Barn

**2100 North Highland Avenue
(Across from the Hollywood Bowl)
Hollywood, California**

From Galen Wilkes

The Hollywood Heritage Museum is housed in the beautifully restored Lasky-DeMille Barn (c. 1895). The Museum features archival photographs from the silent movie days of motion picture production, movie props, historic documents and other movie related memorabilia. Also featured are historic photos and postcards of the streets, buildings and residences of Hollywood during its heyday.

On December 27, 1956 the Lasky-DeMille Barn was designated a California State Historic Landmark No. 554 representing the birth of the Hollywood motion picture industry. Since 1985 Hollywood Heritage Inc. has funded the preservation, restoration and maintenance of this early Hollywood treasure.

<http://hollywoodheritage.org/museum/museum.html>



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 7:30

Renowned musical historian Galen Wilkes will present an evening of music in movies with a singalong presentation at the barn — Come and participate in the fun of an evening's entertainment the way it used to be in movie theatres between features — "Ladies, please - Remove your Hats!"



In addition to our regular "Evening" there will be a special Holiday Party for Hollywood Heritage Members at the Museum.

Check back for details!



For Sale Boswell Projector

From Don P



Want \$250.00 plus shipping. Willing to entertain offers. Anyone interested in this projector, should contact Don directly at: doleph@comcast.net

Inquiry

From Shel Izen

Hello Fellow Lantern Club Members:

An Ebay acquaintance of mine, Don, is doing a book on accessory range finders. See photos of some examples in his collection. I told him about our club, and offered to send out a request to all our members to see if they have any in their collections: any for sale, or just to be photographed so he can see it. If you do, please contact Don directly at: doleph@comcast.net. Thank you. Hope you all are doing well and are having a good holiday. Best, Shel



These units ran up until around 1960, and as far as I've been able to determine the start, it was some where around 1924 to 1926. I'm doing a book, called: "Accessory Range Finders-A to Z".

I pay what I call a very fair price, but it is always based on when I see it, and condition is important to me. I want the book to reflect the best I can find, but that isn't always possible. So you have samples

of A thru D now. Won't bore you with others, but I will say this, if you run across any, before you sell them on eBay, please contact me, because there is certain details to be watching for, and no two are alike. Even Kodak got into the act, and made three different models. Leica made about six that I know of.

Hope you'll let your camera friends know about me, and give them my email address. Thanks for offering. God Bless. DonP.



The Amplion seen here is in a very old box, and as you can see, the leather case was hand made. Notice the foot and the position of the dial and view finder.



On to "B", again notice it has eyes, or more commonly known as front ports from which the mirror and the prism can align themselves in a coincidence fashion. From the rear, you look out of the view finder, and turn the dial until the two images are aligned. Most of the units with feet on the dial, were most likely made for the U.S. market.



Even the Russians and German's got into the act with the possibility of making money.



The Corfield seen here came from a company that was high in many cameras and equipment.



DeJur-Amsco. Well made piece of equipment, and one that many copied from the Leica models.



"Don P.(SKIP)" <doleph@comcast.net>

Beale Bible Slide Goes for \$305

by Terry Borton

Joseph Boggs Beale, America's foremost magic-lantern artist, created some wonderful Bible slides, but they're not exactly hot collector's items. Most go for \$5-10.

How in the world could one sell for \$305?

The answer is that this was, or is, or might be, a Photodrama of Creation slide. The Photodrama was a large show combining lantern slides (about 10% by Beale), movies, and recorded speech. It was produced by the Jehovah's Witnesses in 1911 because they thought the world would end in 1914, and wanted to put out their message in a hurry. They organized 100 teams of projectionists who toured the nation (and the world) in 1914, reaching about 9,000,000 people. Additional related shows were produced later. For further information and videos of the production, search "Photodrama."

The Photodrama was a critical event in the church history of the Jehovah's Witnesses, and as a result items from it are highly collectible by church members. That accounts for the astronomical price on this Bible slide. (Beale Photodrama images were also made into postcards, and they sell at quite a price too.)

What makes this particular item interesting is that it does not have the printed title at the bottom, a characteristic of most Photodrama slides.

Here's the seller's explanation:

"Some new collectors had questioned whether this was a true Photo-Drama slide. I have been a collector for 30 yrs and have a few other of these

type of slides in my collection. Here is the response from another very respected, long time collector, this should help the whole collecting community as to his response. -- As a rule, most of the slides had wording describing the Biblical scene. I sent you a picture showing how the original has this wording. You sent me a picture showing me you had two of these without the wording. Well, when at my desk at work yesterday I looked into an overlooked box of slides and I have the same identical slide without the words being slide # 309. I know the source of my slides was rock solid which would include the extra 309. How can we account for this. Well most of the slides were in such a state of disrepair that after about 10 months the Society recalled all the original 20 sets of slides. What that tells us is that there were so many broken slides because of handling 500 pieces of glass everyday and then transporting the same. I have a letter somewhere in my collection from a "known Brother" who wrote in requesting replacement slides because they had broken slides. I can clearly see in a rush to fill the void that replacements would have been ordered from commercial vendors and without the time to title the slides they more than likely shipped them to wherever the Drama was showing next. That would account for a replacement non-title slide. To make a long story short. I would endorse your slide as having been used in the Drama. Another point as to authenticity it what is not on the slide. On the picture of slide without the number 309 which you sent me take a look at the bottom left corner. There is no label where there should have been one. But I can tell that one was there SINCE YOU CAN SEE THE GLUE RESIDUE and most importantly the number sticker for the originals is EXACTLY THE SAME SIZE AS THE GLUE RESIDUE. I hope this alleviates any uncertainty."

http://www.ebay.com/itm/221151672638?ssPageName=STRK:MEWAX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1423.l2649



I have no idea about whether this explanation of providence for this slides holds water. I did write the seller to provide some background on Beale and the use of Bible slides by every denomination in the country, as there are definitely sellers out there who are taking ordinary Bible slides and passing them off as Photodrama slides.

The seller wrote back a nice note thanking me for the info, and saying he'd pass it on to the Photodrama collecting community.

We'll see.



Australia Heritage Newsletter

From Lindsay Cox
Heritage Newsletter

Greeting from a Spring-time Australia!
Our newest newsletter.
I trust it may have some interest.

regards
lindsay

Major Samuel Day

Samuel Day became a Salvationist at Norwood Corps in South Australia after his first contact with The Salvation Army in an Open Air Meeting. During a Holiness Meeting at Norwood, after Staff-Captain Albiston read from the Scriptures, *And the Lord Called Samuel*. Samuel Day felt called to officership and entered the Training Garrison in 1902. Upon commissioning he was appointed to Guildford Corps in WA. For the next 34 years Major Day served in Corps in Western Australia and South Australia, until retiring with his wife, Laura in 1936.



Major Samuel Day was promoted to glory in January 1959. His obituary stated: *Major Day was never one to seek or enjoy the limelight, but by his consistent, godly, unselfish living and service, was a most valuable servant of God.*

A feature of his ministry for many years was his Magic Lantern shows, using his magic-lantern projector and collection of nearly 1000 glass-slides.

With the demise of the South Australia Division Heritage Centre Brigadier Emily Day has permitted her father's important collection to be exhibited in the Limelight Museum at the Territorial Heritage Centre in Melbourne.

Limelight Department glass-slides discovered

Whilst assessing the large array of narrative slide sets comprising the Day Collection, amazingly, 37 slides in two sets, were found to be Limelight Department productions of 1904. The larger set of 24 slides, is the story of *The Blind Man of Siloam*, and the smaller set of 12 is of *The Syro-Phenician Woman*. Both sets are brilliant and superbly coloured, the work being done in Melbourne.



The Blind Man of Siloam. This brilliantly coloured set of 24 magic-lantern slides formed part of Major Samuel Day's collection. It depicts the story told in John 9:1-11, of Jesus healing a blind man.



This set is one of a number of Bible stories produced as narrative slide-sets by Joseph Perry and the Limelight Department between 1902-1904.



A Christmas Carol Lantern Slides



From Museum Victoria Collections



<http://museumvictoria.com.au/collections/search?q=A+Christmas+Carol+slides>

Inquiry

I could not identify this unusual item—perhaps someone else in the membership will know what it is.

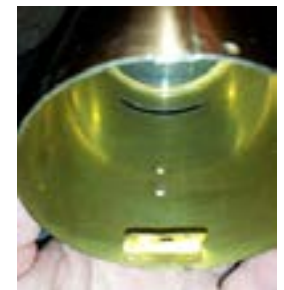
Kentwood Wells

Hi There!

I'm sorry to be a bother, but I recently acquired this item and having a hard time figuring out what it is. I believe it may be a brass lens to some sort of projection lantern, but finding out what it is is very difficult as there are no distinguishing marks other than the crest on the front! If you could reply to me regarding this matter, it would be much appreciated.

Thanks again for your time,
Jason

jason reiter
[mailto:jason9jay@gmail.com]



A Big Thank You to the following:

Debbie Borton
Terry Borton
Lindsay Cox
Ron Easterday
Shel Izen
Pat Kulaga
Don P
Tom Rall
Jason Reiter
Marina Uzunova
Kentwood D. Wells
Galen Wilkes

for contributing to this month's issue.

Now it's your turn to share!

Do you have a favorite site or a collection of images you would like to share with the rest of the society?

If your answer is yes! Send site information or your images to Larry and they will be shared in the next E-pub newsletter.

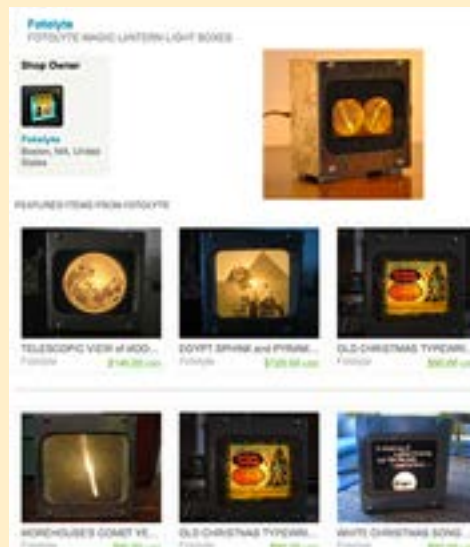
E-mail Larry



See the Magic Lantern Gazette for published original research articles.
Current issues published as part of society membership.
All back issues of the Gazette up through 2011 can now be accessed online in PDF format at:

<http://library.sdsu.edu/scua/online-materials/magic-lantern-pub>

Magic Lantern Glass Slide Light Box



http://www.etsy.com/listing/105787614/old-movie-go-straight-vintage-magic?ref=exp_listing

Welcome New Members

Bundy, Gail

37 North Main St.
Homer, NY 13077-1117
(607) 749-2557
Business research
gebundy2@gmail.com
Interests: Slides: glass, hand painted

Leskosky, Rickard

1505 Raintree Woods Dr
Urbana, IL 61802-7748
(217) 337-6975
Retired film scholar/Cinema Studies professor
University of Illinois
rleskosk@illinois.edu
Interests: Literature: Kinetic devices; Kinetic Devices: All; Vintage Cinema: All.

Finlinson, Jade

1122 W 24th St.
Los Angeles, CA 90007-1724
(213) 746-2166
Student
jade.raid@gmail.com
Interests: Lanterns; Slides; Literature

Rocha, Gregorio Carlos

Atletas No. 2 Oficina HS 22
Col. County Club
Mexico, DF 04220 Mexico
(52) 55 53363078
archiviafilms@yahoo.com.mx
Film maker
Interests: Lanterns: Non-electric, kerosene burners; Slides: Glass, fixed and mechanical; Literature: Phantasmagoria and other visual entertainments; Vintage Cinema: Early Film. Gives Shows.